

# Friendly Neighborhood SPIDER-MAN®

BACK IN BLACK



Rico!  
STILL

# BACK IN BLACK

After revealing his identity to the world during the CIVIL WAR, Peter Parker finds himself and his family targets of the world's most dangerous criminals.

With his Aunt May downed by a sniper's bullet and barely hanging onto life, Peter has donned his old black costume as a dark warning to the world that he's no longer the man he used to be.

**LAST MONTH IN**

## *Friendly Neighborhood* **SPIDER-MAN**

On the run from the law and with nowhere to stay, Peter accepts an invitation to stay at his former high school tormentor Flash Thompson's apartment for a few nights. Soon he's found by an old enemy...Flint Marko, the sinister shape-shifter called Sandman!

But Sandman isn't here to fight, he needs Pete's help. Marko's father has been wrongly accused of murder...the victim? Ben Parker!

Yeah...you're going to want to turn the page now...

## **SANDBLASTED** PART 2

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To find Marvel Comics at a local comic shop, call 1-888-COMICBOOK.

**FOREST HILLS CEMETERY.  
SOME MONTHS EARLIER...**



THANK  
YOU, SPIDER-MAN.  
THANK YOU FOR THE  
ENCOURAGEMENT.

I THINK  
YOU'RE RIGHT.  
ONE MAN...IF HE'S  
THE RIGHT MAN...CAN  
MAKE A WORLD  
OF DIFFERENCE.



SO IF IT'S ALL  
THE SAME TO YOU,  
SPIDER-MAN OF THE  
YEAR 2211...



...I THINK  
I'LL STAY AROUND  
FOR A WHILE.



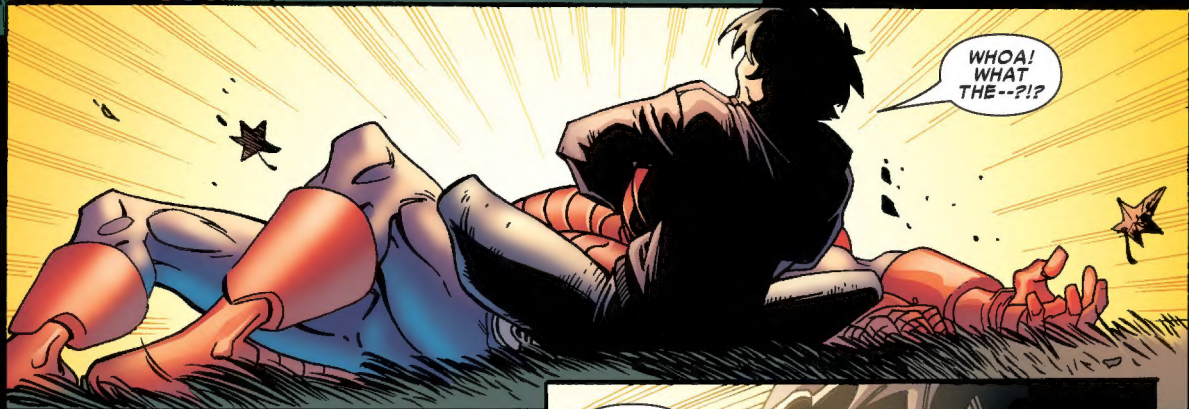


AWWW  
MAN...MAN, THIS  
IS MESSED UP,  
RIGHT HERE.



DUDE  
WON'T BE  
NEEDING  
THIS.

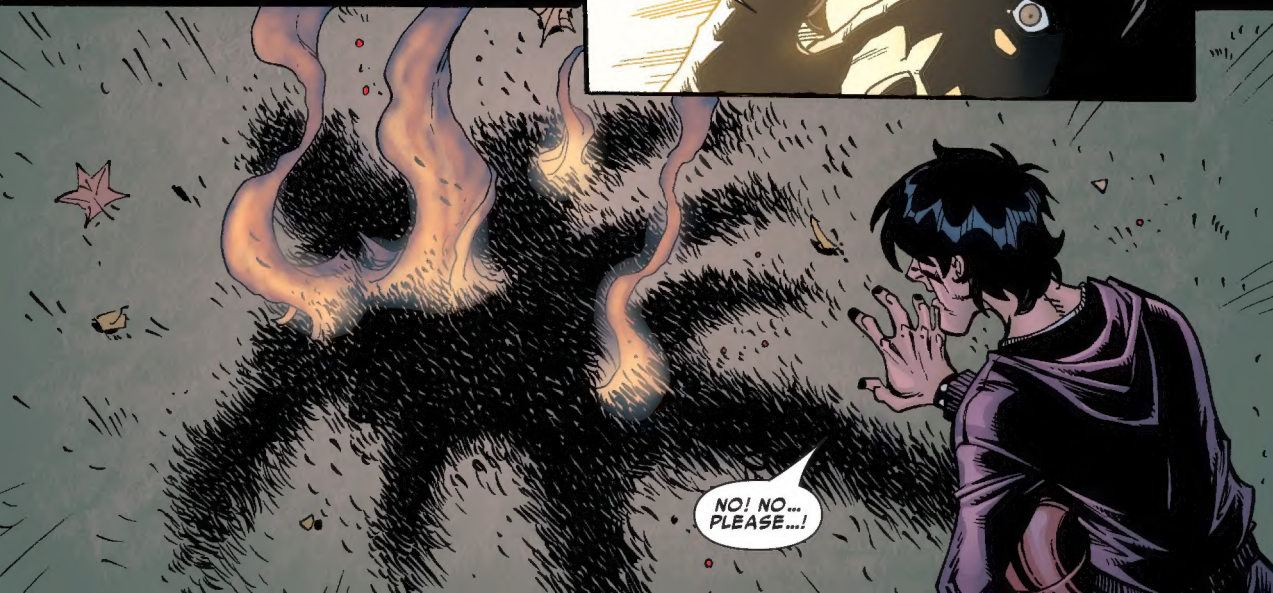
AND  
WHAT'S WITH  
THOSE ARMS?  
HOW FAKE ARE  
THEY?



WHOA!  
WHAT  
THE--?!?



WAIT!  
NO...! I...



NO! NO...  
PLEASE...!



TAKE ME WITH  
YOOOUUU!!!!



HEY!  
YOU STUPID  
KID!

HOW MANY  
TIMES I GOTTA TELL  
YA TO STAY THE HELL  
OUT OF HERE!



THIS AIN'T  
YOUR FREAKIN'  
PLAYGROUND!



I  
SAID GET  
OUT!!

FWING



AND  
STAY  
OUT!



CRIPES.

CRAZY  
KIDS AND THEIR  
ART.

WHOLE  
GENERATION'S  
GOING STRAIGHT  
DOWN THE CRAPPER.

13TH PRECINCT  
MANHATTAN. NOW.

YEAH...  
THAT'S HIM,  
ALL RIGHT.

SO OUR  
JOHN DOE HAS  
A NAME, HUH?

BEN PARKER. SO  
HOW'D BEN PARKER  
WIND UP AS A BUM? A  
STIFF IN A BACK  
ALLEY?

FOR  
THAT MATTER,  
WHY IS S.H.I.E.L.D.  
INTERESTED,  
AGENT, UH...

MADROX.  
JAMIE  
MADROX.

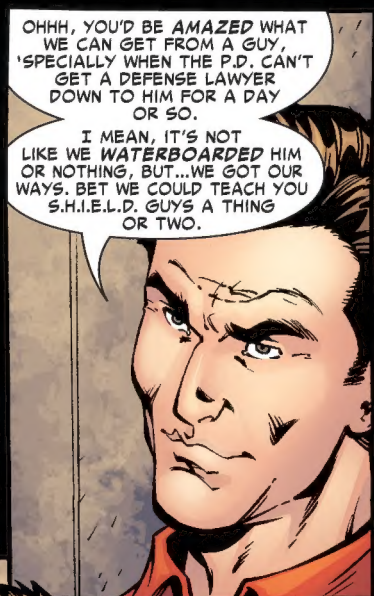
AND THIS  
IS MY ASSOCIATE,  
AGENT...SANDS.

WOULD IT  
INTEREST YOU TO  
KNOW, DETECTIVE COLLINS,  
THAT BEN PARKER DIED  
SOME YEARS AGO? YOU  
CAN CHECK YOUR  
RECORDS.

WHAT, SO...THIS ISN'T  
THIS PARKER GUY, THEN?  
OR MAYBE IT'S A TWIN  
BROTHER....?

NO TWIN  
BROTHER THAT  
WE KNOW OF.

I WAS HOPING  
YOU COULD SHED SOME  
LIGHT ON WHAT THE PERP,  
FLOYD BAKER, MIGHT HAVE  
SAID THE NIGHT YOU  
INTERROGATED HIM AND  
HE CONFESSED.





I SAID  
WE WERE GOING  
TO PLAY THIS MY  
WAY!

SHUT UP!  
THIS CREEP STUCK  
MY FATHER IN  
JAIL---

THIS ISN'T  
DOING ANYBODY  
ANY GOOD--!



SHOULD'VE  
KNOWN IT'S YOU,  
SANDMAN!

WORD JUST  
CAME DOWN: YOUR  
LOSER FATHER'S BEEN  
FAST-TRACKED FOR THE  
DIRT NAP! THANK GOD  
FOR ELECTION YEAR,  
HUH?

KILLIN' ME  
WON'T SAVE HIM! HE'S  
GOING DOWN IN TWO DAYS,  
AND YOU CAN'T DO JACK  
ABOUT IT!



EXECUTED?  
MY...MY DAD?

WE'LL FIND A  
WAY TO PROVE HE'S  
INNOCENT! I SWEAR!  
BUT THIS ISN'T  
THE--



UH-OH.



HI. YOU,  
UH...WOULDN'T HAPPEN  
TO HAVE A PLUG I  
COULD USE TO RECHARGE  
MY HOLOPROJECTOR,  
WOULD YOU?



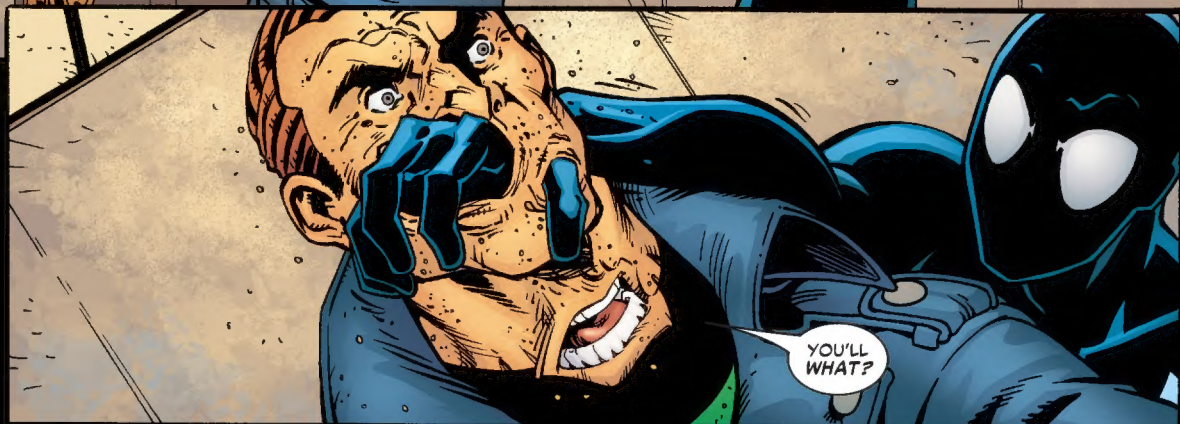
SPIDER-MAN!  
IT'S SPIDER-  
MAN!



Y'KNOW, THE  
WHOLE "KILLING YOU"  
THING...STILL SOUNDING  
PRETTY GOOD FROM  
HERE.



PUT HIM  
DOWN, SANDY!  
OR I'LL--

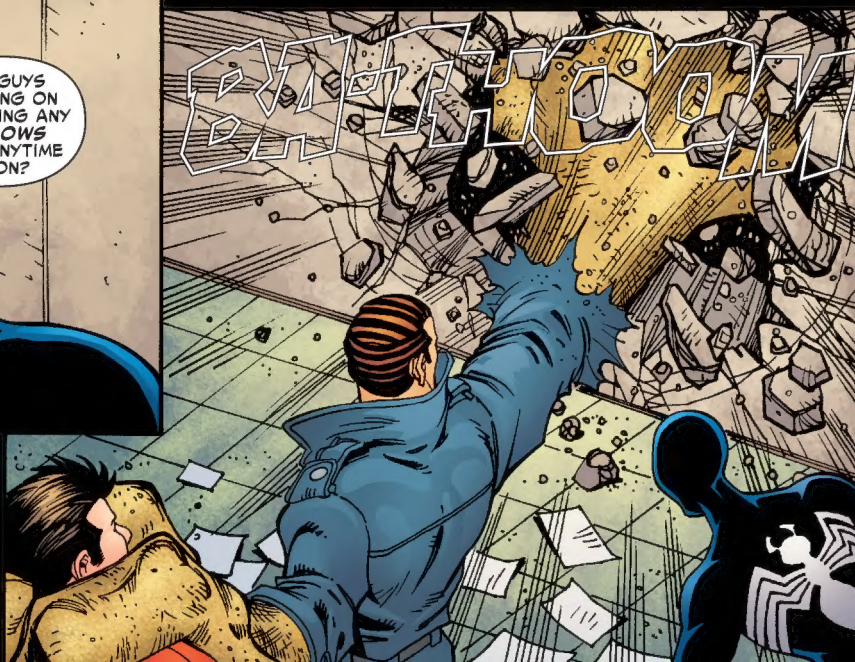


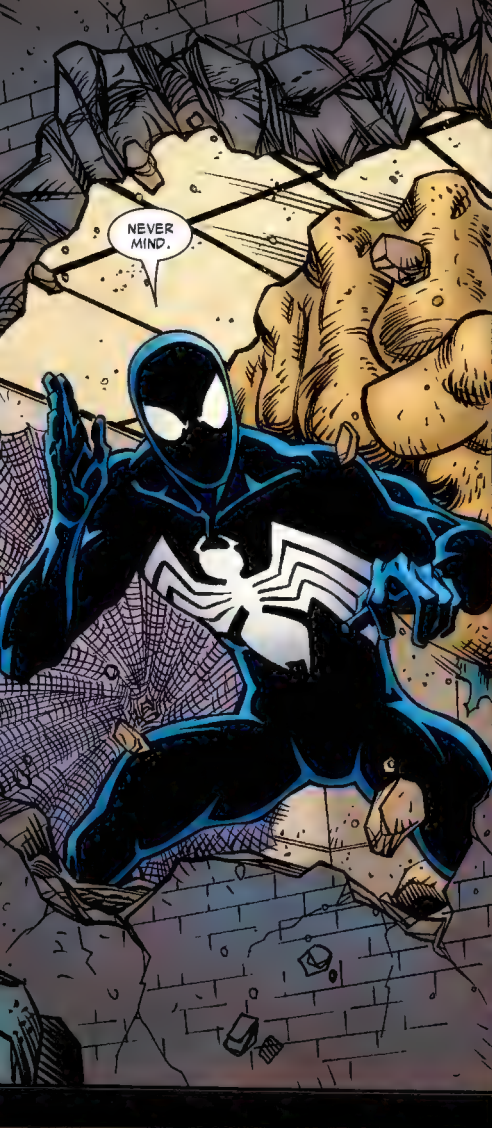
YOU'LL  
WHAT?

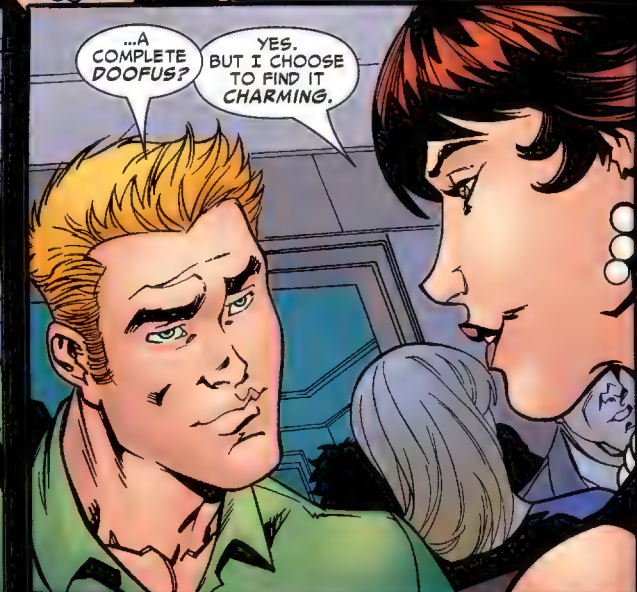


FREEZE!

DON'T  
MOVE!







FLASH... IT'S OKAY. I'M JUST MESSING WITH YOU.

RELAX. IT'S JUST ME. JUST BETTY BRANT...

...HAPPY TO SEE SOMEONE SHE THOUGHT WAS LOST TO HER FOREVER TURN OUT TO BE...

...A COMPLETE DOOFUS?

YES. BUT I CHOOSE TO FIND IT CHARMING.



SO TELL ME ABOUT THIS "MISS ARROW" PERSON.

WHAT ABOUT HER? SHE'S THE SCHOOL NURSE. NOTHIN' MUCH TO TELL THERE.



OHhhh, I DON'T KNOW. WHEN I MET HER, SHE LOOKED DAGGERS AT ME. LIKE SHE SAW ME AS A THREAT.

YOU ASK ME, I THINK SHE'S GOT A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR YOU.



NAH. T'BE HONEST, I ASKED HER OUT A COUPLE TIMES. SHE TURNED ME DOWN FLAT.

NOTHIN' GOING ON THERE.

YOU NEVER KNOW. SOME GIRLS LIKE TO BE PURSUED.



AND, UH...WHAT DO YOU LIKE?



AT THE MOMENT? TO USE THE REST-ROOM.

THEN WE'LL ORDER DINNER. AFTER THAT... WE'LL SEE.



"WE'LL SEE." OOOOKAY ...

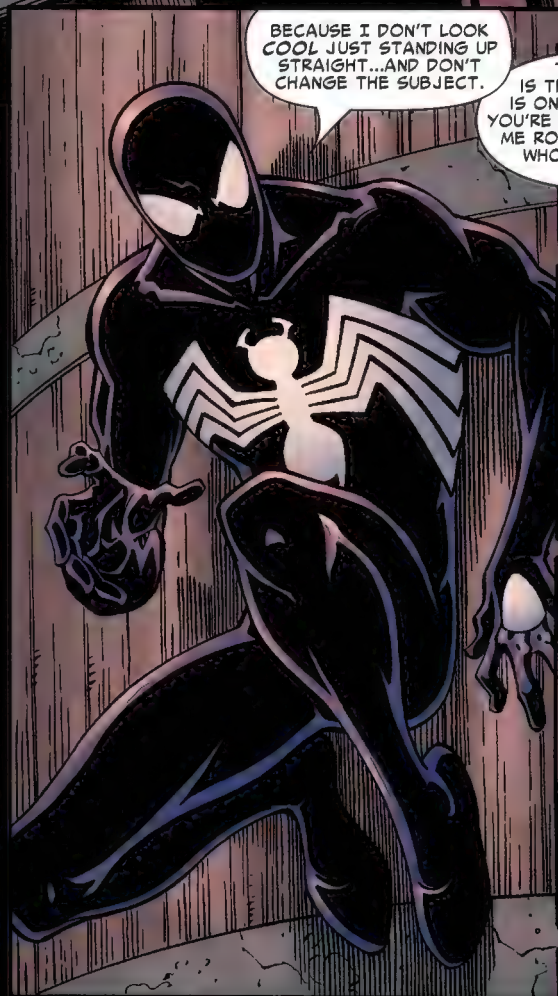
FLASH THOMPSON, BACK ON THE PLAYING FIELD AND LOOKIN' GOOD.



I WAS MINDING MY OWN BUSINESS AND YOU PULLED ME INTO THIS, SANDY! I DON'T WANT ANY MORE REPLAYS OF WHAT JUST HAPPENED!

YEAH, YEAH, WHATEVER...

WHY'RE YOU ALWAYS *CROUCHING* ON STUFF? HOW COME YOU DON'T JUST STAND UP STRAIGHT?



BECAUSE I DON'T LOOK COOL JUST STANDING UP STRAIGHT...AND DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT.

THE SUBJECT IS THAT MY OLD MAN IS ON DEATH ROW, AND YOU'RE GIVIN' ME LIP ABOUT ME ROUGHIN' UP THE COP WHO HELPED PUT 'IM THERE!

WE'RE ON THE CLOCK!

YOU'RE ON THE CLOCK, MARKO. IF YOUR FATHER LIVES OR DIES, WHY SHOULD I CARE?

WELL, YOU TELL ME. WHAT WOULD YOUR UNCLE BEN SAY?



YOU DON'T GET TO MENTION HIM.

YOU UNDERSTAND? YOU *DON'T* GET TO MENTION HIM. HE WAS...

YOU JUST *DON'T*. GOT THAT?





YEAH. I GOT IT.

FACT, I GET MORE THAN YOU PROB'LY THINK I DO.



YOU WANNA GO? GO, YOU'RE RIGHT. THIS IS MY PROBLEM, NOT YOURS.

IT AIN'T WRITTEN IN ROCK... OR EVEN SAND... THAT YOU GOTTA HELP ANY SCHMUCK WITH A PROBLEM.



THAT'S TRUE. THEN AGAIN...

YOU'RE NOT JUST ANY SCHMUCK.



LOOK, MARKO... I DUNNO IF I'M GOING TO BE THAT MUCH HELP TO YOU ANYWAY.

I'M NOT A DETECTIVE. ALL I KNOW IS THIS:

THERE HAVE BEEN TWO UNCLE BENS IN MY LIFE. ONE SHOWED UP OUT OF NOWHERE SOME MONTHS BACK, AND THEN VANISHED.



AND THE OTHER?

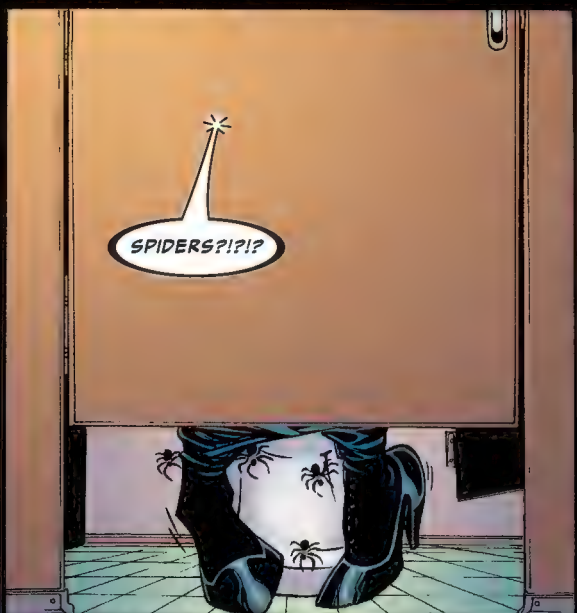
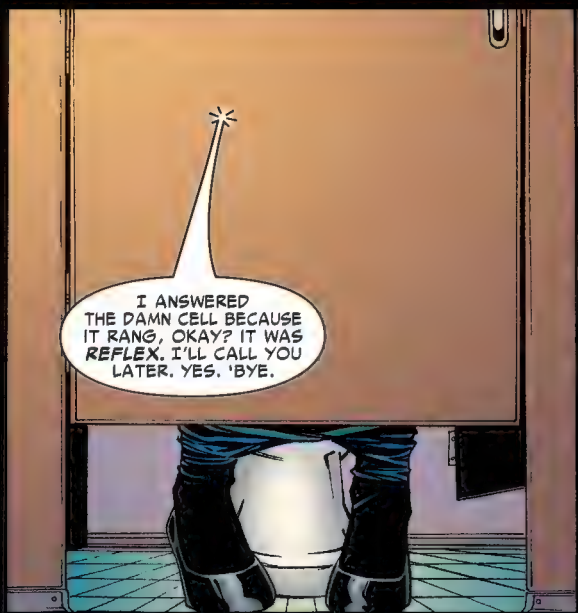
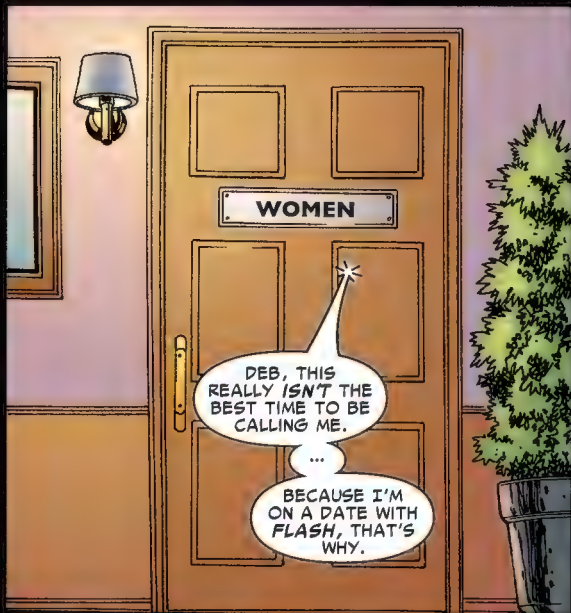
HE'S STILL IN THE SAME PLACE HE'S BEEN SINCE HE DIED.

Y'SURE?



MIGHT AS WELL CHECK.

THE 7 TRAIN RUNS NOT FAR FROM HERE. WE CAN TAKE THAT STRAIGHT TO FLUSHING.

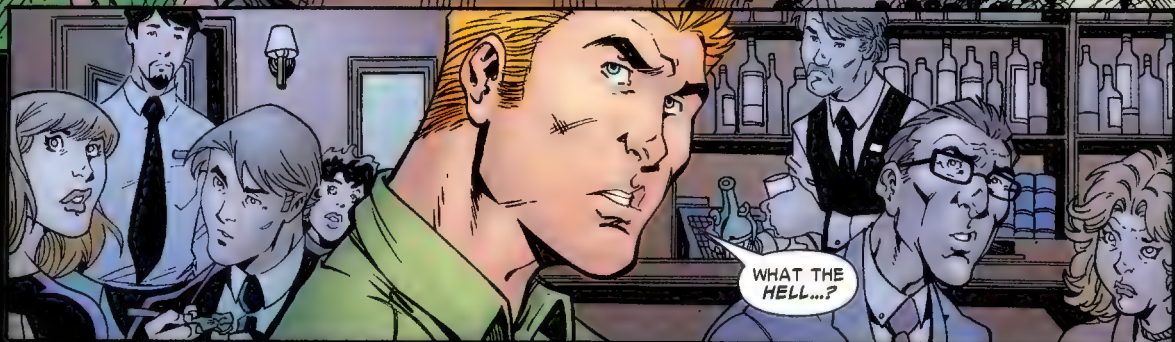


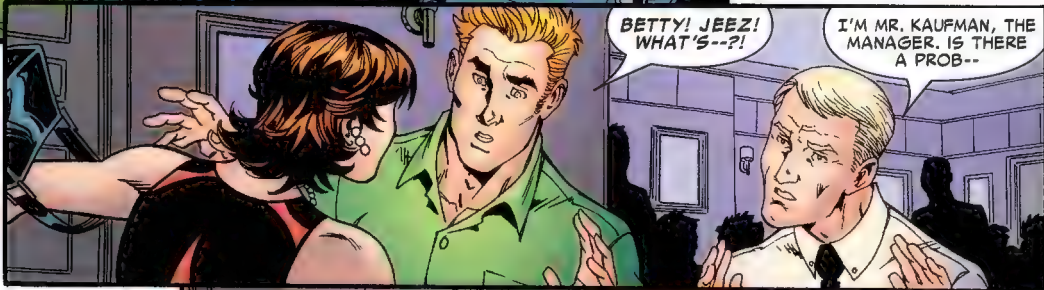
ACCCKKKK!!

GET  
OFF ME!!! GET  
OFFFFFFFF!



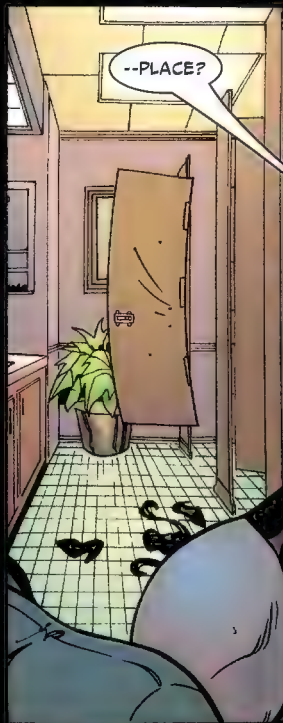
EEYARRRHHH!!







WATCH WHERE YOU STEP! THEY'RE ALL OVER THE--

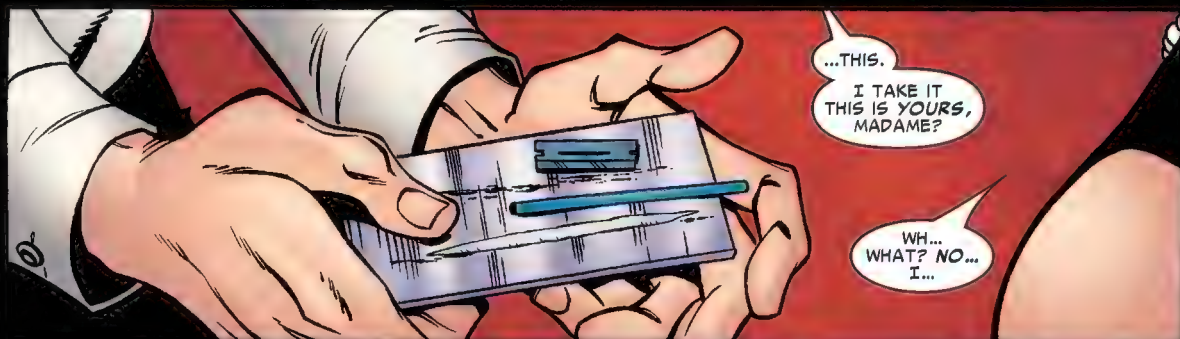


--PLACE?



I...I DON'T UNDERSTAND. THEY...THEY WERE RIGHT HERE. I...

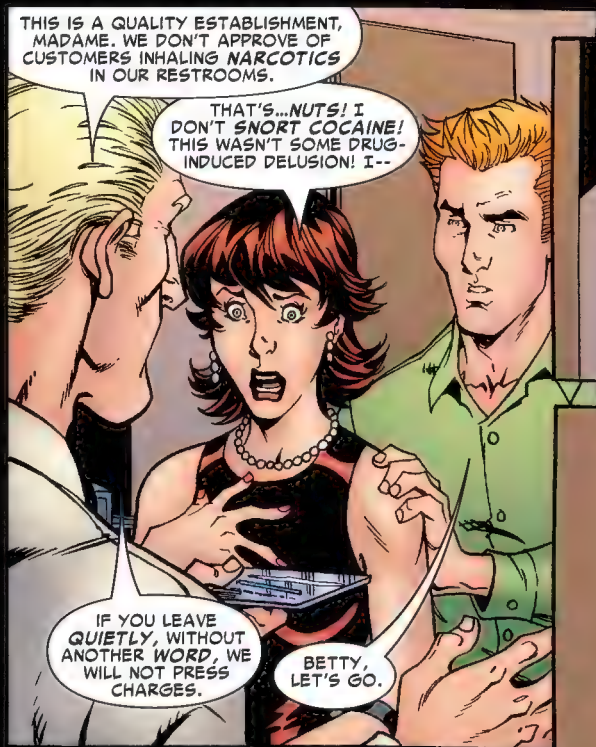
I DON'T SEE ANY SPIDERS, MADAME. HOWEVER, I DO SEE...



...THIS.

I TAKE IT THIS IS YOURS, MADAME?

WH... WHAT? NO... I...



THIS IS A QUALITY ESTABLISHMENT, MADAME. WE DON'T APPROVE OF CUSTOMERS INHALING NARCOTICS IN OUR RESTROOMS.

THAT'S...NUTS! I DON'T SNORT COCAINE! THIS WASN'T SOME DRUG-INDUCED DELUSION! I--

IF YOU LEAVE QUIETLY, WITHOUT ANOTHER WORD, WE WILL NOT PRESS CHARGES.

BETTY, LET'S GO.



BUT...FLASH! I DIDN'T...! YOU... YOU BELIEVE ME, RIGHT...?

SURE, SURE I DO.

RIGHT OUT THROUGH HERE, MADAME, THANK YOU...

SORRY ABOUT THE DISTURBANCE, FOLKS. FALSE ALARM...BUT ALL MEALS ARE ON THE HOUSE.

IT'S ALL OVER.

SOME ARTICLE SAID YOUR  
UNCLE DIED WHEN YOU WERE  
A KID. THAT HE MEANT A  
LOT TO YOU.

CAN'T SAY I'M  
THRILLED EVERYBODY  
KNOWS EVERY DAMNED  
THING ABOUT ME.

WELCOME TO  
MY WORLD. MY LIFE'S  
ON THE BOOKS SINCE  
I WAS SIXTEEN.

PRIVACY'S  
THE FIRST THING T'GO  
WHEN YOU'RE A CROOK:  
KNOWIN' THAT COPS,  
LAWYERS, PAROLE  
OFFICERS ARE WATCHIN'  
YA, JUDGIN' YA.

IT DOES  
THINGS TO YA.  
MAKES YA ANGRY  
ALL THE TIME.  
Y'KNOW?

I...  
KIND OF  
DO...

BEFORE I  
UNMASKED, PEOPLE  
MIGHT HATE SPIDER-MAN...  
BUT HE WAS THIS...THIS  
GUY I CREATED. HE  
WASN'T PETER PARKER.  
SO WHO CARED?

NOW... NOW I'VE  
GOT NO PLACE  
TO HIDE. NOT  
PHYSICALLY, NOT  
EMOTIONALLY.  
AND IT...

GETS  
TO YA?

A  
LITTLE.  
YEAH.

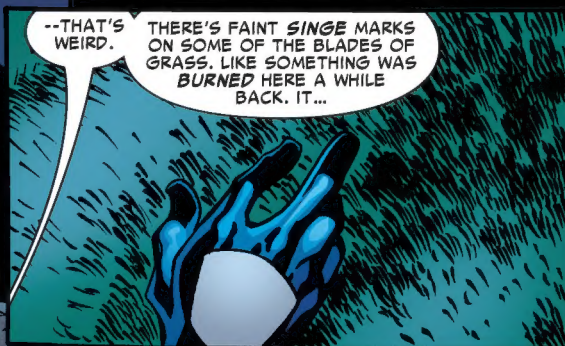
AFTER  
A FEW YEARS,  
IT'LL GET TO YOU  
A LOT.

IT DON'T TAKE  
WEARING A MASK...OR  
TURNING YOURSELF INTO  
SAND...TO WIND UP BEING  
UNRECOGNIZABLE.



IT WAS POINTLESS COMING HERE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WAS EXPECTING. AN OPEN GRAVE? IT'S--



--THAT'S WEIRD.

THERE'S FAINT *SINGE* MARKS ON SOME OF THE BLADES OF GRASS. LIKE SOMETHING WAS BURNED HERE A WHILE BACK. IT...



MY SPIDER-SENSE IS GOING OFF.

SOMEBODY COMING? THE COPS?

NO. THERE'S NO IMMEDIATE DANGER. IT'S SOMETHING ELSE. SOMETHING THAT I SENSE COULD BE...IMPORTANT.



I THOUGHT YOU ONLY HAD A NOSE FOR WHEN SOMEBODY'S TRYING TO POP A CAP IN YOUR HEAD. THAT TYPE O' THING.

THAT USED TO BE THE CASE. THEN STUFF HAPPENED.

YEAH? WHAT KINDA STUFF?

FOR STARTERS, I DIED.



YOU, UH... DIDN'T GET HIT IN THE HEAD REAL HARD ANY TIME IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS, DID YA?





I KNOW  
THAT  
HELMET!

WHERE DID  
YOU GET IT?  
WHO ARE YOU,  
ANYWAY?



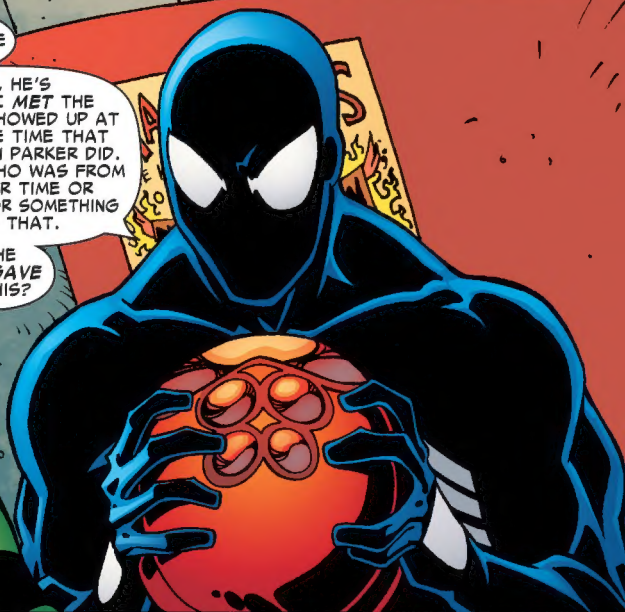
MY...MY  
NAME'S DENNIS.  
AND I GOT IT FROM  
SPIDER-MAN. FROM  
THE YEAR 2211.  
MONTHS AGO.



KID,  
WHATEVER YOU'RE  
SMOKIN'...

NO, HE'S  
RIGHT. I MET THE  
GUY. HE SHOWED UP AT  
THE SAME TIME THAT  
OTHER BEN PARKER DID.  
THE ONE WHO WAS FROM  
ANOTHER TIME OR  
UNIVERSE OR SOMETHING  
LIKE THAT.

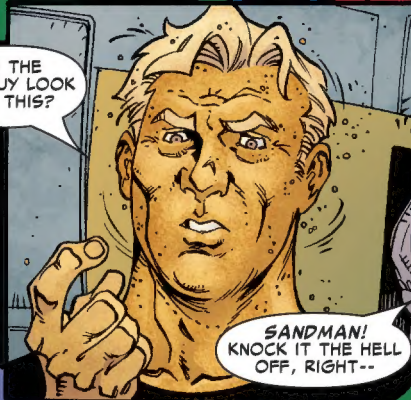
AND HE  
JUST...GAVE  
YOU THIS?



I...OKAY, TECHNICALLY,  
I NEVER MET HIM. I TOOK  
IT OFF 'IM AFTER THE WHITE-  
HAIRCED GUY SHOT HIM DEAD.  
THEN HE JUST...VANISHED  
OR SOMETHIN'.

A  
MAN SHOT  
HIM?

YEAH.



DID THE  
OLD GUY LOOK  
LIKE THIS?

SANDMAN!  
KNOCK IT THE HELL  
OFF, RIGHT--



THAT'S HIM.  
SHOT HIM, LIKE,  
FOUR TIMES.

WHAT? BUT...  
THAT'S...THAT'S  
IMPOSSIBLE...  
HE'D NEVER...



